285 from two to four long, narrow, cylindrical tubes which branch out from a flat central portion. When in use they are hung with the flat part above and the tubes pendant. The opening is in the center, on the lower side of the basket as hung (Fig. 1, c, d). This form is said to be an imitation of a cluster of bean pods and may have originally had a magical significance but, if so, this has now been forgotten.

The Tanala also make several types of flat baskets which might better be classed as sacks or pouches. Small pouches, pointed at the bottom, are hung on the walls of dwellings as receptacles for spoons, matches, etc. (Fig. 13, a). Their purpose seems to be as much decorative as utilitarian and they are the only Tanala baskets which are woven in colors. Flat, oblong, covered pouches are carried when traveling and serve the purpose of a pocket. These pouches are hung from the shoulder by a string across the chest. One example, made by the Zafimaniry gens, has the outside of the cover and the bottom of the inner pouch covered with sewn braid (Fig. 12, e). The braid is made from *hafotse* in a three-strand plait. No other examples of such work were seen. Deep, flexible sacks woven from *sedge or strips of hafotse* are used for carrying rice and other dry foods when traveling. The open end is usually sewn up except for a slit about an inch long. Similar sacks are sometimes stuffed with grass or leaves and used as pillows.

Small basketry *stands* are used to elevate the food dishes of the head of the house and of honored guests. The forms vary greatly, for the makers seem to allow their imaginations free reign. The commonest rests are simply rings of stiff matting two or more layers thick. Another form consists of a basket with a base of the same size and depth as the rim, the effect being that of two baskets joined bottom to bottom (Fig. 8, h). Still another form consists of a well-made basket dish with a high, woven base of smaller diameter (Fig. 8, f).

Triangular conical baskets, usually of small size, are used as *strainers for purifying salt*. This is dissolved, strained through, and then allowed to recrystallize. They were formerly used for leaching wood ashes, the potash being used as a salt substitute (Fig. 6, a).

Collars of matting about a foot wide, like baskets without bottoms, are placed about the mouths of rice mortars to prevent the grain from falling to the ground.

352 295 Basketry stools, stuffed with straw, are in common use. They consist of a wide circular band of matting which is drawn inward

285 352 along the sides by means of draw strings threaded through the binding. Small separate squares of matting are inserted under the edges of the band, forming the ends of the stool. When first made, these stools are nearly spherical (Fig. 13, b).

[534] Pouches and stools are sometimes decorated with simple woven designs like those used on mats, but the bulk of Tanala basketry is devoid of ornament and rather coarsely woven.

285 [824] Baskets of wicker work and open weave are made exclusively by men. The material is a tough, flexible vine called *raby*. This is split and flattened. Wicker work baskets are extremely rare, only one specimen being collected. This is a small, cylindrical, covered basket identical with those manufactured by some of the southeast coast tribes and was probably made in imitation of these (Fig. 13, d). The members run vertically and horizontally.

[226] Wicker work technique is regularly employed for one type of fish scoop. This has the form of a half cylinder, the rigid vertical elements of the wicker work running crosswise. The flat ends of the scoop are formed by bending the longitudinal splints inward and fastening them together with rough twined work in bark (Fig. 8, b). Wicker work technique is also used for house doors, the material being split bamboo, and for small open frames used for smoking fish.

In the technique which I have called open weave, the foundation consists of two series of parallel, diagonal members intersecting at regular intervals. Horizontal members are woven over and under these immediately above each intersection (Fig. 13, c). The finished fabric has large six-sided meshes. This technique is employed for deep, narrow, oblong baskets, one of which is to be found in nearly every household (Fig. 13, f). It is hung up beside the fireplace and utensils are dropped into it after washing, the open meshes allowing them to drain and dry quickly. Because of their stiffness, such baskets are also used for storing eggs and other breakables. The same technique is used for the close-fitting, semi-rigid network woven about gourds used for storing grease (Fig. 13, e), and in the manufacture of a large heart-shaped type of fish trap (Fig. 8, d). [171] It seems to be almost universal in Indonesia and may have been brought to Madagascar from that region.

285 226 Twined work is employed in the manufacture of fish traps, eel cages, fish scoops and hanging platforms, but never for real baskets. The traps are conical or bottle shaped and the cages cylindrical. They are made from closely spaced, lengthwise strips of bamboo, about ¼ inch wide. At intervals of 5 to 8 inches these strips are

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342 the fireplace a short section of large bamboo is usually fastened vertically, with its top flush with the floor. This serves as a drain for pouring out dish water and small scraps of food. The walls are made from bamboo mats, rushes, or midribs of Traveler's Palm leaves. The rushes or midribs are skewered side by side on long slivers of bamboo and pressed closely together, so that they are almost air-tight. The material is made up in large panels, which are then trimmed to fit the wall. These wall panels are attached to the inside of the timbers, so that the inner walls of the house are smooth and unbroken while the framework is visible on the outside.

The rafters are made from small bamboos, about 2 inches in diameter, which are lashed to the ridgepole and wall plates. They extend out about 2 feet over the walls, forming eaves. The roof is heavily thatched with leaves of the Traveler's Palm. The leaves are folded together along the midrib and laid on horizontally, overlapping like shingles. They are sewn to the rafters with strips of bark, a bamboo needle being used (Fig. 18, a). Grass is used for thatching in a few places. Across the south end of the house, on a level with the tops of the walls, there is a deep shelf of bamboo. This is used as a storage place.

There are always two and sometimes three doors. These are about 5 feet high and 2 feet 3 inches wide, extending down to the floor. The main doorway is in the west side, near the southern end. Directly in front of it is the fireplace. The second door is in the eastern side, near the north end. The third, if there is a third, is in the middle of the north wall. The northeastern and northern doors are opened for light and ventilation but are rarely used for entrance. The door itself is made from a stiff panel of bamboo woven in wicker work. It rests against the inside of the door jambs, with its lower edge on the floor. Doors are only fastened when the owner is absent. A string is fastened to the center of the door and its other end attached to a stick which is wedged across the jambs on the outside.

359 In cold weather, the walls of the house are lined with rush mats which are fastened up with bamboo pins (Fig. 18, b). Similar mats are used to cover the floor, except immediately around the
• 352 fireplace. The only furniture consists of matting stools (Fig. 18, b) and there are rarely more than one of these in a house, such seats being reserved for guests and family heads. The beds are simple mats which are unrolled on the floor at night and put away in the daytime. In a few places, tent-like mosquito nets of raffia cloth

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Fig. 18. Houses, etc. a, Bamboo Thatching Needle; b, Pins for Mat Lining of Houses; c, d, Dust Pan and Broom; e, Frame of Thatch House; f, Section of Wall of Wooden House; g, Wooden House, Imbomainty.

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• 352 are in use. These are made from three long strips of cloth sewn together side by side and at the ends. They are hung from the rafters and reach to the floor, the lower edges being tucked in under the sleeping mat.

342 The Tanala houses are comfortable and well adapted to the
356 climate, the only disadvantage being that they are rather smoky. The fire is kept going constantly, and in time the rafters and inside of the thatch become thoroughly blackened. For some reason, perhaps the general humidity, this smoke deposit is as glossy as black lacquer and gives a really decorative effect. Most of the houses are kept scrupulously clean. The floor mats are changed frequently, and the whole house swept at least once a day. Brooms made from palm splints and dust pans of matting are employed (Fig. 18, c, d).

342 There seem to be no special ceremonies attendant on house building or on first entering the new house, although the work is usually begun on an auspicious day. One informant mentioned a charm for house building, but I could not learn its composition or how it was used.

The Zafimaniry dwellings are also rectangular and are oriented in the same way as those of the rest of the tribe, but they are greatly superior in workmanship and solidarity (Fig 18, g). They seem to be identical with the houses used by the Betsileo at the beginning of the historic period, and the Zafimaniry no doubt brought the type with them when they fled from the plateau.

The houses are rather small, the largest rarely being more than 15 feet long, and are rather wide in proportion to their length, some being almost square. They are usually built on terraces or on stone-faced earth platforms 18 inches to 2 feet 6 inches high. If on a terrace, a ditch 18 inches wide and of the same depth is dug round the [361] house about 2 feet out from the walls, for drainage. The disposition of the houses in villages is very irregular and hardly two will be at the same level.

335 All the main timbers are made of hard wood and are carefully
342 squared and dressed. The three main posts are oblong in section, 3 to 4 inches thick and 8 to 10 inches wide at the base, tapering to about 6 inches wide at the top. They are firmly planted in the ground at either end and in the center of the house, their broad faces being at right angles to its long axis. The center post is usually slightly larger than the other two. Their tops are deeply notched to receive the ridgepole, which is also of hard wood, round, and about 4 inches

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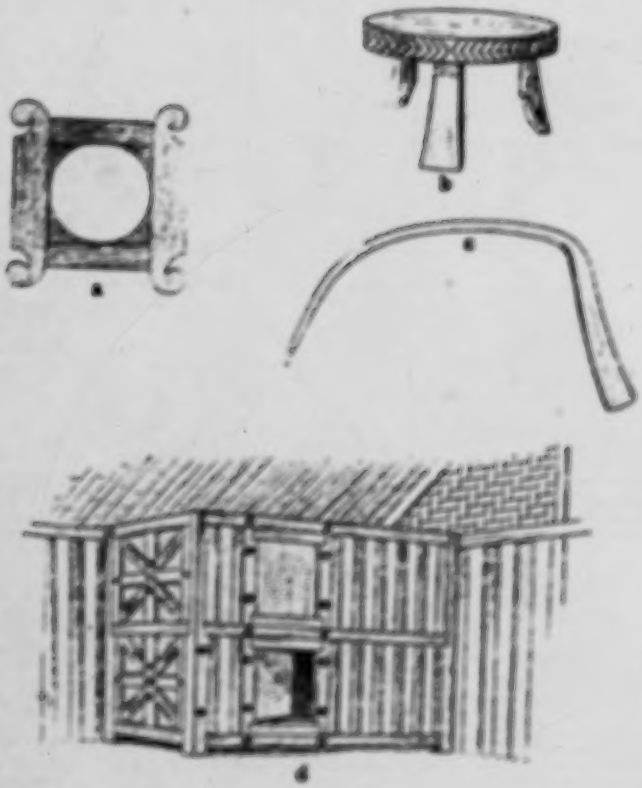

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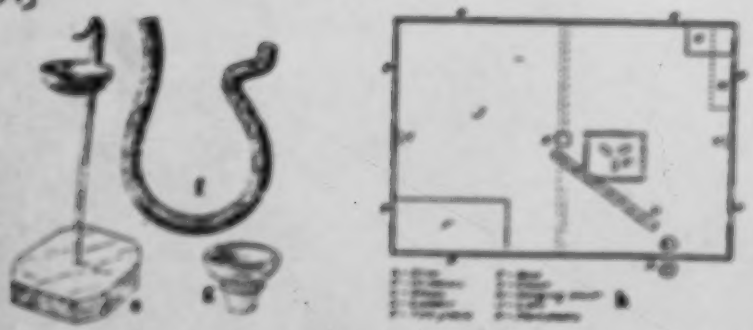

354 The fireplace is southwest of the center post. It is always far enough away from the walls so that it can be approached from all sides. It is rectangular, about 2 feet on a side, and is depressed 2 to 3 inches below the floor level. It is surrounded by small slabs of stone set on edge. One or more tripods, made from slender stones planted in the earth, serve to support the cooking pots. Among the Betsileo these stones are sometimes carefully shaped, but all those seen among the Zafimaniry were rough.

• 352 Along the southern wall there are commonly one or more hanging shelves loaded with utensils, baskets, etc. On the center post, or on the wall opposite the entrance, a small openwork basket for spoons is hung. In the southeast corner there is usually a wooden chest. In front of this is a stand for a water jar. This is usually made from a small tree with its branches lopped to form a support for the jar. It is about 18 inches high.

Against the west wall, to the left of the entrance and filling the rest of that side of the house, is the bed (Fig. 19, d). This is a huge wooden structure, resembling a wardrobe. It is built in permanently, the walls of the house forming the back and southern end. The front and northern end are nearly as high as the house wall. The top is open. The inner walls of the bed are constructed of grooved lumber, like the house walls. There are longitudinal beams halfway up. In the center of the east side there are two doors, one above, the other below. The lower half of the bed is used for storage, setting hens, etc., the upper half for sleeping. The bed itself is made of split bamboos or saplings laid longitudinally, with grass and mats on top. At night, the father and mother of the family retire into this structure and shut the door. Everyone else sleeps on mats laid on the floor. [53] The beds are usually carved.

The Zafimaniry use matting stools, like the other Tanala, but have in addition well-made wooden stools, usually with three legs (Fig. 19, b). These are carved from a section of log. I never saw [422] more than one wooden stool in a house. This stool is the property of the father and no one else can use it while he is present.

356 The Zafimaniry houses are well suited to their environment, for the winter season in their territory is cold, with chilling fogs, but they are poorly kept. The floors are rarely swept and spilled food, etc., is simply trodden in. When the floor mats become too soiled, new ones are laid down on top, the floor itself being of earth. In one house I counted sixteen layers of mats, each with its accumu-